

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BORDEA 00060 211742Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
ACDA-12 IO-14 TRSE-00 /098 W
-----073374 211813Z /72

P 211705Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0713
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIRITY
AMCONSUL LYON PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL NICE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG PRIORITY

UNCLAS BORDEAUX 0060

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: PINT, FR
SUBJECT: FRENCH LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS.

REF: BORDEAUX 0055

IN THE FINAL OFFICIAL TALLY, THE LEFT WON 43 OF THE 66 SEATS
IN THE 19 DEPARTMENTS OF THE SOUTH WEST WHILE THE MAJORITY
WON 23, (CORRECTION TO REFTTEL). THE BREAKDOWN WAS: 30
SOCIALISTS, 7 COMMUNISTS AND 6 MRG FOR THE LEFT AGAINST 17 RPR,
5 UDF AND 1 CNI (INDEPENDENT) FOR THE MAJORITY. THE LEFT MADE
A CLEAN SWEEP IN 8 DEPARTMENTS.

THE TWO DISTRICTS FOR WHICH OUR PRE-ELECTION ESTIMATES WERE
WRONG WERE THE 5TH OF THE GIRONDE AND 3RD OF LOT AND GARONNE.
IN THE GIRONDE 5TH, FORMER MINISTER AYMAR ACHILLE FOULD, UDF,
RADICAL, ETC., HAD WON A BY-ELECTION IN NOVEMBER 1976 AGAINST
THE SAME OPPONENT, R. JULIEN, MRG. HE HAS GREAT PRESTIGE IN THE
REGION AND IN THE PAST HAS PULLED FROM BEHIND TO WIN. THIS TIME
HE LOST TO JULIEN BY 394 VOTES OUT OF OVER 71 THOUSAND CAST.
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PAGE 02 BORDEA 00060 211742Z

THE ONLY PART OF HIS DISTRICT IN WHICH ACHILLE-FOULD RAN BEHIND
WAS BLANQUEFORT, LOCATION OF THE RECENTLY OPENED 4,000 EMPLOYEE
FORD FACTORIES. SOME HERE HAVE SAID , IN JEST I HOPE, THAT HIS
LOSS WAS THUS THE FAULT OF THE AMERICANS.

IN THE 3RD OF THE LOT AND GARONNE, THE RESULT WAS EVEN MORE
SURPRISING. LAPERRONIE, ELECTED LAST YEAR AS MAYOR OF VILLENEUVE

SUR LOT, A STRONG AND ABLE CANDIDATE, WAS CHOSEN TO RUN IN PLACE OF MAJORITY INCUMBENT SCHLOESSING. FIRST ROUND RESULTS INDICATED HE WOULD BE A SURE WINNER. HOWEVER, HE WAS DEFEATED BY OVER 1,400 VOTES. LOCAL ANALYSTS SAY THAT, AS A LAWYER IN THE CHIEF TOWN, LAPERRONIE JUST COULDN'T TAKE ANY RURAL RADICAL VOTES FROM HIS RURAL SOCIALIST OPPONENT. HARD PRESSED LOCAL FARMERS WENT HEAVILY TO THE LEFT IN THE SECOND ROUND.

OTHER INTERESTING RESULTS IN THE AREA WERE:

- 1) THE TINY 88 VOTE WIN OF SOCIALIST LEADER LABERRERE AT PAU.
- 2) THE LOSS BY MAYOR BAUDIS , RPR AT TOULOUSE OF THE ONLY REMAINING MAJORITY SEAT IN THE HAUTE-GARONNE.
- 3) THE FAILURE OF CHIRAC PROTEGE JUPE IN THE LANDES.
- 4) THE CAPTURE BY THE COMMUNISTS OF THE ONLY REMAINING SOCIALIST SEAT IN THE HAUTE-VIENNE FOR A CLEAN SWEEP.
- 5) THE NARROW VICTORIES OF ROBERT BOULIN, RPR IN THE GIRONDE AND OF YVES GUENA, RPR IN THE DORDOGNE.
- 6) THE VICTORY OF SOCIALIST BERNARD MADRELLE IN THE FORMERLY CONSERVATIVE 10TH OF THE GIRONDE.
- 7) THE WINS OF YOUNG SOCIALIST MAYORS SANTROT AT POITIERS AND BOUCHERON AT ANGOULEME.
- 8) THE COMMUNIST WIN AT CONFOLENS (CHARENTE).
- 9) THE SOCIALIST WIN IN THE 2ND OF THE GERS.

ONE OF THE FEW MAJORITY BULWARKS TO REMAIN IN PLACE WAS THE VENDEE WHERE THEY HELD ALL FOUR SEATS (2RPR, 2 UDF).
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PAGE 03 BORDEA 00060 211742Z

ANALYSIS FOLLOWS.
MARVIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BORDEA00060
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780124-0776
Format: TEL
From: BORDEAUX
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780344/aaaableg.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3bdf60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 BORDEAUX 55
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3261267
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS.
TAGS: PINT, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3bdf60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014